S. 2789

To amend the Congressional Award Act to establish a Congressional Recognition for Excellence in Arts Education Board.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

June 26, 2000

Mr. Cochran introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Governmental Affairs

A BILL

To amend the Congressional Award Act to establish a Congressional Recognition for Excellence in Arts Education Board.

- 1 Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-
- 2 tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,
- 3 SECTION 1. CONGRESSIONAL RECOGNITION FOR EXCEL-
- 4 LENCE IN ARTS EDUCATION.
- 5 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Congressional Award Act (2
- 6 U.S.C. 801–808) is amended by adding at the end the fol-
- 7 lowing:

II—CONGRESSIONAL "TITLE 1 RECOGNITION EXCEL-FOR 2 LENCE IN ARTS EDUCATION 3 4 "SEC. 201. SHORT TITLE. 5 "This title may be cited as the Congressional Recognition for Excellence in Arts Education Act'. 6 7 "SEC. 202. FINDINGS. "Congress makes the following findings: 8 9 "(1) Arts literacy is a fundamental purpose of 10 schooling for all students. 11 "(2) Arts education stimulates, develops, and 12 refines many cognitive and creative skills, critical 13 thinking and nimbleness in judgment, creativity and 14 imagination, cooperative decisionmaking, leadership, 15 high-level literacy and communication, and the ca-16 pacity for problem-posing and problem-solving. 17 "(3) Arts education contributes significantly to 18 the creation of flexible, adaptable, and knowledge-19 able workers who will be needed in the 21st century 20 economy. 21 "(4) Arts education improves teaching and 22 learning. 23 "(5) Where parents and families, artists, arts 24 organizations, businesses, local civic and cultural

leaders, and institutions are actively engaged in in-

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- structional programs, arts education is more successful.
- "(6) Effective teachers of the arts should be encouraged to continue to learn and grow in mastery of their art form as well as in their teaching competence.
 - "(7) The 1999 study, entitled 'Gaining the Arts Advantage: Lessons from School Districts that Value Arts Education', found that the literacy, education, programs, learning and growth described in paragraphs (1) through (6) contribute to successful districtwide arts education.
 - "(8) Despite all of the literacy, education, programs, learning and growth findings described in paragraphs (1) through (6), the 1997 National Assessment of Educational Progress reported that students lack sufficient opportunity for participatory learning in the arts.
 - "(9) The Arts Education Partnership, a coalition of national and State education, arts, business, and civic groups has demonstrated its effectiveness in addressing the purposes described in section 205(a) and the capacity and credibility to administer arts education programs of national significance.

1 "SEC. 203. DEFINITIONS.

2	"In this title:
3	"(1) ARTS EDUCATION PARTNERSHIP.—The
4	term 'Arts Education Partnership' (formerly known
5	as the Goals 2000 Arts Education Partnership) is a
6	private, nonprofit coalition of education, arts, busi-
7	ness, philanthropic, and government organizations
8	that—
9	"(A) demonstrates and promotes the es-
10	sential role of arts education in enabling all stu-
11	dents to succeed in school, life, and work; and
12	"(B) was formed in 1995 through a coop-
13	erative agreement among—
14	"(i) the National Endowment for the
15	Arts;
16	"(ii) the Department of Education;
17	"(iii) the National Assembly of State
18	Arts Agencies; and
19	"(iv) the Council of Chief State
20	School Officers.
21	"(2) Board.—The term 'Board' means the
22	Congressional Recognition for Excellence in Arts
23	Education Awards Board established under section
24	204.

"(3) 1 ELEMENTARY SCHOOL; SECONDARY 2 SCHOOL.—The terms 'elementary school' and 'sec-3 ondary school' mean— "(A) a public or private elementary school 5 or secondary school (as the case may be), as de-6 fined in section 14101 of the Elementary and 7 Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 8 8801); or "(B) a bureau funded school as defined in 9 section 1146 of the Education Amendments of 10 11 1978 (25 U.S.C. 2026). "(4) STATE.—The term 'State' means each of 12 13 the several States of the United States, the District 14 of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, 15 Guam, American Samoa, the United States Virgin 16 Islands, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mar-17 iana Islands, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, 18 the Federated States of Micronesia, and the Repub-19 lic of Palau. 20 "SEC. 204. ESTABLISHMENT OF BOARD. "There is established within the legislative branch of 21 22 the Federal Government a Congressional Recognition for 23 Excellence in Arts Education Awards Board. The Board shall be responsible for administering the awards program described in section 205.

1 "SEC. 205. BOARD DUTIES.

2	"(a) Awards Program Established.—The Board
3	shall establish and administer an awards program to be
4	known as the 'Congressional Recognition for Excellence in
5	Arts Education Awards Program'. The purpose of the pro-
6	gram shall be to—
7	"(1) celebrate the positive impact and public
8	benefits of the arts;
9	"(2) encourage all elementary schools and sec-
10	ondary schools to integrate the arts into the school
11	curriculum;
12	"(3) spotlight the most compelling evidence of
13	the relationship between the arts and student learn-
14	ing;
15	"(4) demonstrate how community involvement
16	in the creation and implementation of arts policies
17	enriches the schools;
18	"(5) recognize school administrators and faculty
19	who provide quality arts education to students;
20	"(6) acknowledge schools that provide profes-
21	sional development opportunities for their teachers;
22	"(7) create opportunities for students to experi-
23	ence the relationship between early participation in
24	the arts and developing the life skills necessary for
25	future personal and professional success;

1	"(8) increase, encourage, and ensure com-
2	prehensive, sequential arts learning for all students;
3	and
4	"(9) expand student access to arts education in
5	schools in every community.
6	"(b) Duties.—
7	"(1) SCHOOL AWARDS.—The Board shall—
8	"(A) make annual awards to elementary
9	schools and secondary schools in the States in
10	accordance with criteria established under sub-
11	paragraph (B), which awards—
12	"(i) shall be of such design and mate-
13	rials as the Board may determine, includ-
14	ing a well-designed certificate or a work of
15	art, designed for the awards event by an
16	appropriate artist; and
17	"(ii) shall be reflective of the dignity
18	of Congress;
19	"(B) establish criteria required for a school
20	to receive the award, and establish such proce-
21	dures as may be necessary to verify that the
22	school meets the criteria, which criteria shall in-
23	clude criteria requiring—
24	"(i) that the school provides com-
25	prehensive, sequential arts learning and in-

1	tegrates the arts throughout the cur-
2	riculum; and
3	"(ii) 3 of the following:
4	"(I) that the community serving
5	the school is actively involved in shap-
6	ing and implementing the arts policies
7	and programs of the school;
8	"(II) that the school principal
9	supports the policy of arts education
10	for all students;
11	"(III) that arts teachers in the
12	school are encouraged to learn and
13	grow in mastery of their art form as
14	well as in their teaching competence;
15	"(IV) that the school actively en-
16	courages the use of arts assessment
17	techniques for improving student,
18	teacher, and administrative perform-
19	ance; and
20	"(V) that school leaders engage
21	the total school community in arts ac-
22	tivities that create a climate of sup-
23	port for arts education; and
24	"(C) include, in the procedures necessary
25	for verification that a school meets the criteria

1	described in subparagraph (B), written evidence
2	of the specific criteria, and supporting docu-
3	mentation, that includes—
4	"(i) 3 letters of support for the school
5	from community members, which may in-
6	clude a letter from—
7	"(I) the school's Parent Teacher
8	Association (PTA);
9	"(II) community leaders, such as
10	elected or appointed officials; and
11	"(III) arts organizations or insti-
12	tutions in the community that partner
13	with the school; and
14	"(ii) the completed application for the
15	award signed by the principal or other edu-
16	cation leader such as a school district arts
17	coordinator, school board member, or
18	school superintendent;
19	"(D) determine appropriate methods for
20	disseminating information about the program
21	and make application forms available to schools,
22	which methods may include—
23	"(i) the Arts Education Partnership
24	web site and publications;

1	"(ii) the Department of Education
2	Community Update newsletter;
3	"(iii) websites and publications of the
4	Arts Education Partnership steering com-
5	mittee members;
6	"(iv) press releases, public service an-
7	nouncements and other media opportuni-
8	ties; and
9	"(v) direct communication by postal
10	mail, or electronic means;
11	"(E) delineate such roles as the Board
12	considers to be appropriate for the Director in
13	administering the program, and set forth in the
14	bylaws of the Board the duties, salary, and ben-
15	efits of the Director;
16	"(F) raise funds for the operation of the
17	program;
18	"(G) determine, and inform Congress re-
19	garding, the national readiness for interdiscipli-
20	nary individual student awards described in
21	paragraph (2), on the basis of the framework
22	established in the 1997 National Assessment of
23	Educational Progress and such other criteria as
24	the Board determines appropriate; and

1	"(H) take such other actions as may be
2	appropriate for the administration of the Con-
3	gressional Recognition for Excellence in Arts
4	Education Awards Program.
5	"(2) Student awards.—
6	"(A) IN GENERAL.—At such time as the
7	Board determines appropriate, the Board—
8	"(i) shall make annual awards to ele-
9	mentary school and secondary school stu-
10	dents for individual interdisciplinary arts
11	achievement; and
12	"(ii) establish criteria for the making
13	of the awards.
14	"(B) AWARD MODEL.—The Board may use
15	as a model for the awards the Congressional
16	Award Program and the President's Physical
17	Fitness Award Program.
18	"(c) Presentation.—The Board shall arrange for
19	the presentation of awards under this section to the recipi-
20	ents and shall provide for participation by Members of
21	Congress in such presentation, when appropriate.
22	"(d) Date of Announcement.—The Board shall
23	determine an appropriate date or dates for announcement
24	of the awards under this section, which date shall coincide

1	with a National Arts Education Month or a similarly des
2	ignated day, week or month, if such designation exists
3	"(e) Report.—
4	"(1) IN GENERAL.—The Board shall prepare
5	and submit an annual report to Congress not later
6	than March 1 of each year summarizing the activi
7	ties of the Congressional Recognition for Excellence
8	in Arts Education Awards Program during the pre
9	vious year and making appropriate recommendations
10	for the program. Any minority views and rec
11	ommendations of members of the Board shall be in
12	cluded in such reports.
13	"(2) Contents.—The annual report shall con-
14	tain the following:
15	"(A) Specific information regarding the
16	methods used to raise funds for the Congres
17	sional Recognition for Excellence in Arts Edu
18	cation Awards Program and a list of the
19	sources of all money raised by the Board.
20	"(B) Detailed information regarding the
21	expenditures made by the Board, including the
22	percentage of funds that are used for adminis
23	trative expenses.
24	"(C) A description of the programs formu
25	lated by the Director under section 207(b)(1)

1	including an explanation of the operation of
2	such programs and a list of the sponsors of the
3	programs.
4	"(D) A detailed list of the administrative
5	expenditures made by the Board, including the
6	amounts expended for salaries, travel expenses,
7	and reimbursed expenses.
8	"(E) A list of schools given awards under
9	the program, and the city, town, or county, and
10	State in which the school is located.
11	"(F) An evaluation of the state of arts
12	education in schools, which may include anec-
13	dotal evidence of the effect of the Congressional
14	Recognition for Excellence in Arts Education
15	Awards Program on individual school cur-
16	riculum.
17	"(G) On the basis of the findings described
18	in section 202 and the purposes of the Congres-
19	sional Recognition for Excellence in Arts Edu-
20	cation Awards Program described in section
21	205(a), a recommendation regarding the na-
22	tional readiness to make individual student
23	awards under subsection (b)(2).
24	"SEC. 206. COMPOSITION OF BOARD; ADVISORY BOARD.
25	"(a) Composition.—

1	"(1) In general.—The Board shall consist of
2	9 members as follows:
3	"(A) 2 Members of the Senate appointed
4	by the Majority Leader of the Senate.
5	"(B) 2 Members of the Senate appointed
6	by the Minority Leader of the Senate.
7	"(C) 2 Members of the House of Rep-
8	resentatives appointed by the Speaker of the
9	House of Representatives.
10	"(D) 2 Members of the House of Rep-
11	resentatives appointed by the Minority Leader
12	of the House of Representatives.
13	"(E) The Director of the Board, who shall
14	serve as a nonvoting member.
15	"(2) Advisory Board.—There is established
16	an Advisory Board to assist and advise the Board
17	with respect to its duties under this title, that shall
18	consist of 15 members appointed—
19	"(A) in the case of the initial such mem-
20	bers of the Advisory Board, by the leaders of
21	the Senate and House of Representatives mak-
22	ing the appointments under paragraph (1),
23	from among representatives of the Arts Edu-
24	cation Partnership selected from recommenda-

1	tions received from the Arts Education Partner-
2	ship steering committee; and
3	"(B) in the case of any other such mem-
4	bers of the Advisory Board, by the Board, from
5	among representatives of the Arts Education
6	Partnership selected from recommendations re-
7	ceived from the Arts Education Partnership
8	steering committee.
9	"(3) Special rule for advisory board.—In
10	making appointments to the Advisory Board, the in-
11	dividuals and entity making the appointments under
12	paragraph (2) shall consider recommendations sub-
13	mitted by any interested party, including any mem-
14	ber of the Board.
15	"(4) Interest.—
16	"(A) IN GENERAL.—Members of Congress
17	appointed to the Board shall have an interest in
18	1 of the purposes described in section 205(a).
19	"(B) Diversity.—Representatives of the
20	Arts Education Partnership appointed to the
21	Advisory Board shall represent the diversity of
22	that organization's membership, so that artistic
23	and education professionals are represented in
24	the membership of the Board, including at least

1	1 representative who teaches in each of the fol-
2	lowing disciplines:
3	"(i) Music.
4	"(ii) Theater.
5	"(iii) Visual Arts.
6	"(iv) Dance.
7	"(b) Terms.—
8	"(1) Board.—Members of the Board shall
9	serve for terms of 6 years, except that of the mem-
10	bers first appointed—
11	"(A) 1 Member of the House of Represent-
12	atives and 1 Member of the Senate shall serve
13	for terms of 2 years;
14	"(B) 1 Member of the House of Represent-
15	atives and 1 Member of the Senate shall serve
16	for terms of 4 years; and
17	"(C) 2 Members of the House of Rep-
18	resentatives and 2 Members of the Senate shall
19	serve for terms of 6 years,
20	as determined by lot when all such members have
21	been appointed.
22	"(2) Advisory Board.—Members of the Advi-
23	sory Board shall serve for terms of 6 years, except
24	that of the members first appointed, 3 shall serve
25	for terms of 2 years, 4 shall serve for terms of 4

- 1 years, and 8 shall serve for terms of 6 years, as de-
- 2 termined by lot when all such members have been
- 3 appointed.

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- 4 "(c) Vacancy.—
- 5 "(1) IN GENERAL.—Any vacancy in the mem-6 bership of the Board or Advisory Board shall be 7 filled in the same manner in which the original ap-8 pointment was made.
 - "(2) Term.—Any member appointed to fill a vacancy occurring before the expiration of the term for which the member's predecessor was appointed shall be appointed only for the remainder of such term.
 - "(3) EXTENSION.—Any appointed member of the Board or Advisory Board may continue to serve after the expiration of the member's term until the member's successor has taken office.
- "(4) SPECIAL RULE.—Vacancies in the membership of the Board shall not affect the Board's power to function if there remain sufficient members of the Board to constitute a quorum under subsection (d).
- 23 "(d) Quorum.—A majority of the members of the 24 Board shall constitute a quorum.

- 1 "(e) Compensation.—Members of the Board and
- 2 Advisory Board shall serve without pay but may be com-
- 3 pensated for reasonable travel expenses incurred by the
- 4 members in the performance of their duties as members
- 5 of the Board.
- 6 "(f) Meetings.—The Board shall meet annually at
- 7 the call of the Chairperson and at such other times as
- 8 the Chairperson may determine to be appropriate. The
- 9 Chairperson shall call a meeting of the Board whenever
- 10 ½ of the members of the Board submit written requests
- 11 for such a meeting.
- 12 "(g) Officers.—The Chairperson and the Vice
- 13 Chairperson of the Board shall be elected from among the
- 14 members of the Board, by a majority vote of the members
- 15 of the Board, for such terms as the Board determines.
- 16 The Vice Chairperson shall perform the duties of the
- 17 Chairperson in the absence of the Chairperson.
- 18 "(h) Committees.—
- 19 "(1) IN GENERAL.—The Board may appoint
- such committees, and assign to the committees such
- 21 functions, as may be appropriate to assist the Board
- in carrying out its duties under this title. Members
- of such committees may include the members of the
- Board, the Advisory Board, or such other qualified
- individuals as the Board may select.

- 1 "(2) Special rule.—Any employee or officer
- 2 of the Federal Government may serve as a member
- of a committee created by the Board, but may not
- 4 receive compensation for services performed for such
- 5 a committee.
- 6 "(i) Bylaws and Other Requirements.—The
- 7 Board shall establish such bylaws and other requirements
- 8 as may be appropriate to enable the Board to carry out
- 9 the Board's duties under this title.
- 10 "SEC. 207. ADMINISTRATION.
- 11 "(a) IN GENERAL.—In the administration of the
- 12 Congressional Recognition for Excellence in Arts Edu-
- 13 cation Awards Program, the Board shall be assisted by
- 14 a Director, who shall be the principal executive of the pro-
- 15 gram and who shall supervise the affairs of the Board.
- 16 The Director shall be nominated by the Arts Education
- 17 Partnership steering committee and appointed by a major-
- 18 ity vote of the Board.
- 19 "(b) Director's Responsibilities.—The Director
- 20 shall, in consultation with the Board—
- 21 "(1) formulate programs to carry out the poli-
- cies of the Congressional Recognition for Excellence
- in Arts Education Awards Program;

- 1 "(2) establish such divisions within the Con-2 gressional Recognition for Excellence in Arts Edu-3 cation Awards Program as may be appropriate; and
- "(3) employ and provide for the compensation of such personnel as may be necessary to carry out the Congressional Recognition for Excellence in Arts Education Awards Program, subject to such policies as the Board shall prescribe under its bylaws.
- 9 "(c) APPLICATION.—Each school or student desiring 10 an award under this title shall submit an application to 11 the Board at such time, in such manner and accompanied 12 by such information as the Board may require.

13 "SEC. 208. LIMITATIONS.

- "(a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to such limitations as may be provided for under this section, the Board may take such actions and make such expenditures as may be necessary to carry out the Congressional Recognition for Excellence in Arts Education Awards Program, except
- 19 that the Board shall carry out its functions and make ex-
- 20 penditures with only such resources as are available to the
- 21 Board from the Congressional Recognition for Excellence
- 22 in Arts Education Awards Trust Fund pursuant to section
- 23 210(e).
- 24 "(b) Contracts.—The Board may enter into such
- 25 contracts as may be appropriate to carry out the business

- 1 of the Board, but the Board may not enter into any con-
- 2 tract which will obligate the Board to expend an amount
- 3 greater than the amount available to the Board for the
- 4 purpose of such contract during the fiscal year in which
- 5 the expenditure is made.
- 6 "(c) GIFTS.—The Board may seek and accept, from
- 7 sources other than the Federal Government, funds and
- 8 other resources to carry out the Board's activities. The
- 9 Board may not accept any funds or other resources that
- 10 are—
- "(1) donated with a restriction on their use un-
- less such restriction merely provides that such funds
- or other resources be used in furtherance of the
- 14 Congressional Recognition for Excellence in Arts
- 15 Education Awards Program; or
- 16 "(2) donated subject to the condition that the
- identity of the donor of the funds or resources shall
- 18 remain anonymous.
- 19 "(d) VOLUNTEERS.—The Board may accept and uti-
- 20 lize the services of voluntary, uncompensated personnel.
- 21 "(e) Real or Personal Property.—The Board
- 22 may lease (or otherwise hold), acquire, or dispose of real
- 23 or personal property necessary for, or relating to, the du-
- 24 ties of the Board.

- 1 "(f) Prohibitions.—The Board shall have no 2 power—
- 3 "(1) to issue bonds, notes, debentures, or other 4 similar obligations creating long-term indebtedness;
- 5 "(2) to issue any share of stock or to declare 6 or pay any dividends; or
- "(3) to provide for any part of the income or assets of the Board to inure to the benefit of any director, officer, or employee of the Board except as reasonable compensation for services or reimbursement for expenses.

12 "SEC. 209. AUDITS.

- 13 "The financial records of the Board may be audited
- 14 by the Comptroller General of the United States at such
- 15 times as the Comptroller General may determine to be ap-
- 16 propriate. The Comptroller General, or any duly author-
- 17 ized representative of the Comptroller General, shall have
- 18 access for the purpose of audit to any books, documents,
- 19 papers, and records of the Board (or any agent of the
- 20 Board) which, in the opinion of the Comptroller General,
- 21 may be pertinent to the Congressional Recognition for Ex-
- 22 cellence in Arts Education Awards Program.

23 "SEC. 210. TERMINATION.

- 24 "The Board shall terminate 6 years after the date
- 25 of enactment of this title. The Board shall set forth, in

- 1 its bylaws, the procedures for dissolution to be followed
- 2 by the Board.
- 3 "SEC. 211. TRUST FUND.
- 4 "(a) Establishment of Fund.—There is estab-
- 5 lished in the Treasury of the United States a trust fund
- 6 to be known as the 'Congressional Recognition for Excel-
- 7 lence in Arts Education Awards Trust Fund'. The fund
- 8 shall consist of amounts donated to the Board under sec-
- 9 tion 208(c) and amounts credited to the fund under sub-
- 10 section (d).
- 11 "(b) Investment of Fund Assets.—
- "(1) IN GENERAL.—It shall be the duty of the
- 13 Secretary of the Treasury to invest in full the
- amounts in the fund. Such investments may be
- made only in interest-bearing obligations of the
- 16 United States or in obligations guaranteed as to
- both principal and interest by the United States.
- 18 For such purpose, such obligations may be acquired
- on original issue at the issue price or by purchase
- of outstanding obligations at the marketplace.
- 21 "(2) Special rule.—The purposes for which
- obligations of the United States may be issued under
- 23 the Second Liberty Bond Act are hereby extended to
- authorize the issuance at par of special obligations
- exclusively to the fund. Such special obligations shall

- bear interest at a rate equal to the average rate of 1 2 interest, computed as to the end of the calendar 3 month next preceding the date of such issue, borne by all marketable interest-bearing obligations of the United States then forming a part of the public 5 6 debt, except that when such average rate is not a 7 multiple of ½ of 1 percent, the rate of interest of 8 such special obligations shall be the multiple of ½ 9 of 1 percent next lower than such average rate. Such 10 special obligations shall be issued only if the Sec-11 retary determines that the purchase of other inter-12 est-bearing obligations of the United States, or of 13 obligations guaranteed as to both principal and in-14 terest by the United States on original issue or at 15 the market price, is not in the public interest.
- "(c) AUTHORITY TO SELL OBLIGATIONS.—Any obli-17 gation acquired by the fund (except special obligations 18 issued exclusively to the fund) may be sold by the Sec-19 retary of the Treasury at the market price, and such spe-20 cial obligations may be redeemed at par plus accrued in-21 terest.
- "(d) PROCEEDS FROM CERTAIN TRANSACTIONS
 CREDITED TO FUND.—The interest on, and the proceeds
 from the sale or redemption of, any obligations held in
 the fund shall be credited to and form a part of the fund.

1	"(e) Expenditures From Trust Fund.—The Sec-
2	retary of the Treasury is authorized to pay to the Board
3	from the interest and earnings of the fund such sums as
4	the Board determines are necessary and appropriate to en-
5	able the Board to carry out this title."
6	(b) Conforming Amendments.—The Congres-
7	sional Award Act (2 U.S.C. 801–808) is amended—
8	(1) by inserting after section 1 the following:
9	"TITLE I—CONGRESSIONAL
10	AWARD PROGRAM",
11	(2) by redesignating sections 2 through 9 as
12	sections 101 through 108, respectively,
13	(3) in section 101 (as so redesignated)—
14	(A) by striking "Act" and inserting "title"
15	and
16	(B) by striking "section 3" and inserting
17	"section 102",
18	(4) in section 102(e) (as so redesignated)—
19	(A) by striking "section 5(g)(1)" and in-
20	serting "section 104(g)(1)", and
21	(B) by striking "section 7(g)(1)" and in-
22	serting "section 106(g)(1)", and
23	(5) in section 103(i), by striking "section 7"
24	and inserting "section 106".

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